

# State of South Carolina

## Governor's Proclamation

**WHEREAS,** one of the most decorated enlisted sailors in Navy history, Boatswain's Mate 1<sup>st</sup> Class James Elliot Williams was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for bravery and leadership while serving in Vietnam; and

**WHEREAS,** the United States Navy has a proud tradition of naming its destroyers in honor of American Naval heroes and leaders; and

**WHEREAS,** on May 26, 2001, the 45<sup>th</sup> Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyer was named for BM 1 James E. Williams in recognition of his courage and patriotism; and

**WHEREAS,** today marks the beginning of the active Navy command of United States Ship James E. Williams.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim December 11, 2004, as

### USS JAMES E. WILLIAMS (DDG-95) DAY

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to join me in thanking the crew of this great ship for their service and wishing them well as they set sail to preserve the peace and prosperity of all Americans.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Sanford".

**MARK SANFORD**  
**GOVERNOR**  
**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**